Message Text

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R 260846Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5308

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 1296

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SN, RP, ASEAN

SUBJ: MARCOS-LEE PRESS STATEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 016220; (B) MANILA 992 (C) MANILA 939

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF MARCOS-LEE JANUARY 19 PRESS STATEMENT (POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND ASEAN POSTS JAN 24.)

BEGIN TEXT. JOINT PRESS STATEMENT, JANUARY 19, 1977, BAGUIO.

- 1. AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT FERDINAND E. MARCOS, PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW OF SINGAPORE PAID AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES ON 16-20 JANUARY 1977. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. LEE KUAN YEW, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, S. RAJARATNAM, MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS, LIM KIM SAN, MINISTER FOR FINANCE, HON SUI SEN, AND SENIOR OFFICIALS.
- 2. PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW AND PRESIDENT MARCOS HELD A CORDIAL AND CANDID EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON BILATERAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION AND ON RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS.

REVIEWING THE PROGRESS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS SINCE UNCLASSIFIED

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THEIR MEETING IN SINGAPORE A YEAR AGO, THE TWO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE ACCELERATION IN THE FLOW OF TRADE, EXCHANGES IN TOURISM AND IN THE INCREASING CONTACTS BETWEEN THEIR GOVERNMENTS, AS WELL AS BETWEEN BUSINESS, TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL GROUPS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

- 3. PRIME MINISTER LEE AND PRESIDENT MARCOS EXPLORED OTHER AREAS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION WHICH WOULD UTILIZE THEIR COUNTRIES' RESOURCES AND SKILLS TO MUTUAL ADVANTAGE.
- 4. THEY NOTED THAT AN AUSPICIOUS START HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE IN ESTABLISHING JOINT VENTURES. IN SUPPORT THEREOF, THEY AGREED TO HOLD IMMEDIATE NEGOTIATIONS ON AN AGREEMENT FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION. THEY ALSO AGREED TO CONSIDER THE EARLY CONCLUSION OF AN INVESTMENT GUARANTEE AGREEMENT

THEY AGREED TO EXPAND THE EXISTING EXCHANGE BY THE PHILIPPINES AND SINGAPORE OF AIR TRAFFIC RIGHTS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE TOURISM AND TRADE COMMUNICATIONS.

THE TWO LEADERS DISCUSSED POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC HOUSING AND AGREED, AS AN INITIAL STEP, FOR A PHILIPPINES TECHNICAL MISSION TO VISIT SINGAPORE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO DEFINE THE AREAS OF COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD.

THEY AGREED TO WORK OUT COOPERATION IN THE PROCESSING OF CRUDE OIL FROM THE PHILIPPINES IN SINGAPORE REFINERIES.

ON ASEAN COOPERATION, THE TWO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE OBJECTIVES AND PROGRESS OF THE BALI DECLARATION OF ASEAN CONCORD. THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR DETERMINATION TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER ASEAN MEMBER STATES IN ACCELERATING REGIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPMENT AND THE GROWTH OF INTRA-ASEAN TRADE.

- 5. TOWARDS THIS END, PRIME MINISTER LEE AND PRESIDENT MARCOS AGREED IN PARTICULAR:
- (1) TO IMPLEMENT MUTUAL ACROSS-THE-BOARD PREFERENTIAL TARIFF REDUCTIONS OF TEN PERCENT OF EXISTING TARIFFS ON ALL PRODUCTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TRADED BETWEEN THEM TO PROMOTE BILATERAL AND INTRA-ASEAN TRADE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION.
- (2) TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY THE EXPEDITIOUS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS ASSIGNED TO EACH COUNTRY DIESEL ENGINES FOR SINGAPORE AND PHOSPATIC FERTILIZER FOR THE PHILIPPINES--AND TO COOPERATE ACTIVELY IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS.
- (3) ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN PROMOTING REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL

COMPLEMENTATION AND IN IMPROVING REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS, BY SUCH PROJECTS AS THE PHILIPPINE-SINGAPORE

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SUBMARINE CABLE WITHIN THE ASEAN NETWORK.

- (4) TO VEST IN THEIR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIC PLANNING MINISTERS THE COORDINATING ROLE FOR DECISION MAKING ON MATTERS COVERING ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG THEIR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIC MINISTERS. THE DECISION OF ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS WILL BE PROMULGATED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF ASEAN.
- (5) TO WORK OUT SPECIFIC MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ARRANGEMENTS IN FINANCE AND TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BANKING FACILITIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
- 6. THE TWO LEADERS AGREED TO ESTABLISH A BILATERAL SINGAPORE-PHILIPPINE COMMISSION TO WORK OUT WAYS AND MEANS OF INCREASING THE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
- 7. THE TWO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AGREED TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE ON THE EXCHANGES OF INTELLIGENCE AND CONSULTATION ON WAYS OF COMBATTING SUBVERSION AND INFILTRATION. THEY SHARED THE BELIEF THAT ECONOMIC STABILITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ARE IMPORTANT FACTORS IN COUNTERING SUBVERSION AND INSURGENCY. UNCLASSIFIED

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8. THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE PRESIDENT STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF CLOSER ASEAN RELATIONS WITH OTHER DEVELOPING STATES. AT THE SAME TIME THEY REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE.

9. THE TWO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT STREESED THE DESIRABILITY OR PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ASEAN COOPERATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES REGARDLESS OF DIFFERENCES IN POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND WITH REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

10. THE TWO LEADERS CALLED ON THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO ADOPT POLICIES WHICH WOULD INCREASE THE FLOW OF INVESTMENTS INTO ASEAN COUNTRIES AND EXPAND TRADE BETWEEN ASEAN AND THE DEVELOPED STATES. IN THIS REGARD, THEY AGREED THAT ASEAN SHOULD MAKE JOINT APPROACHES TO THE UNITED STATES TO PRESERVE THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF TAX DEFERRAL FOR AMERICAN INVESTMENTS IN ASEAN.

11. THE TWO LEADERS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE COUNTIES NOW COOPERATING WITH ASEAN INTENSIFY SUCH MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONS AS THIS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE STABILITY AND PEACE OF THE REGION. THE TWO LEADERS SUPPORTED THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ECONOMIC DIALOGUE BETWEEN ASEAN AND THE UNITED STATES, AND THE EXPANSION OF THE ECONOMIC DIALOGUE BETWEEN ASEAN AND JAPAN.

12. THEY SHARED THE VIEW THAT A CONSTRUCTIVE BALANCE OF POWER AMONG THE GREAT POWERS WITH LEGITIMATE INTERESTED IN THE REGIONA WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE STABILITY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OF ASIA AS A WHOLE. THEY ALSO EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT PEACEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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COMPETITION AMONG THE GREAT POWERS IN THE REGION WOULD BENEFIT BOTH SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE GREAT POWERS.

13. THE TWO LEADERS REAFFIRMED, IN RESPECT OF THE RELATIONS OF THEIR TWO COUNTRIES WITH OTHER POWERS THEIR ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY, SOVEREIGNTY, RESPECT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF STATES, NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS, NON-RECOURSE TO FORCE OR THE THREAT

OF FORCE, AND THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS.

14. PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW EXPRESSED HIS FULLEST APPRECIATION FOR THE WARM AND EXCELLENT RECEPTION EXTENDED TO HIM AND HIS PARTY BY THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES.
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